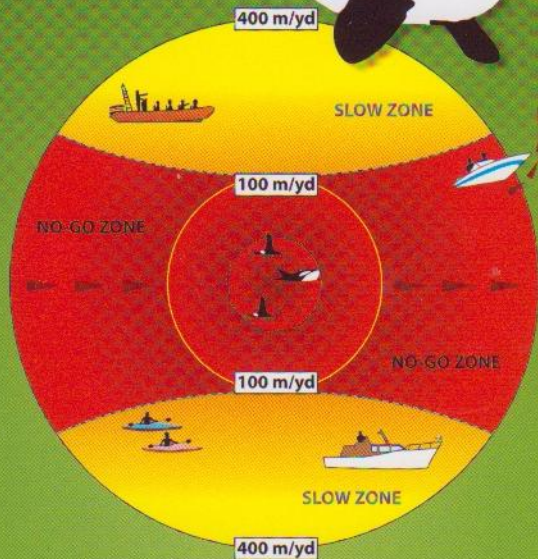


# GET OFF MY TAIL!

IT'S THE  
LAW!



In Washington State, it is unlawful to\*:

- APPROACH within 100 yards of a killer whale.
- INTERCEPT a killer whale by placing a vessel or allowing a vessel or other object to remain in the path and within 100 yards of a killer whale.
- FAIL TO immediately DISENGAGE a vessel's transmission within 100 yards of a killer whale.
- HARASS any marine mammal.

\*Some exemptions apply.

See Wildlife Viewing at [WWW.WDFW.WA.GOV](http://WWW.WDFW.WA.GOV) for more information

Boaters are encouraged to follow the  
Be Whale Wise Guidelines for Marine Wildlife  
[www.bewhalewise.org](http://www.bewhalewise.org)



## The Laws

Regulations of Canada, the U.S. and Washington State prohibit the harassment and disturbance of killer whales and other marine mammals. Many species are listed as threatened or endangered and are therefore subject to additional protections under the Endangered Species Act (U.S.) and the Species at Risk Act (Canada)

## What is a disturbance?

Disturbance is when we interfere with an animal's ability to hunt, feed, communicate, socialize, rest, breed, or care for its young. These are critical processes necessary for healthy marine wildlife populations.

## Enforcement

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and NOAA Fisheries Office for Law Enforcement are dedicated to the enforcement of state and federal laws that protect and conserve our nation's living marine resources and their natural habitat.

Washington Fish and Wildlife Officers, NOAA Fisheries Special Agents and local law enforcement officers have specific authority to enforce applicable state and federal laws designed to protect killer whales and other marine mammals.

## Report Violators

IN THE US 1-800-853-1964  
NOAA Fisheries, Office for Law Enforcement

IN CANADA 1-800-465-4336  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Online: [www.bewhalewise.org](http://www.bewhalewise.org)

## Do Your Part: Be Whale Wise!

